

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/533,586

Amendment filed November 21, 2008

Reply to OA dated June 27, 2008

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 2-4, 6, 8, 11-12, 14 and 16 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend claims 1 and 5, as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A method of determining the suitability of a solar radiation shielding member comprising solar radiation shielding fine particles, said solar radiation shielding fine particles comprising fine hexaboride particles represented by XB_6 (wherein X is at least one selected from the group consisting of Y, La, Ce, Pr, Nd, Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm, Yb, Lu, Zr, Ba, Sr and Ca), said fine hexaboride particles having an average primary-particle diameter of 400 nm or less and a lattice constant of from 4.100 to 4.160 and having a powder color in the $L^*a^*b^*$ color system of which L^* is from 30 to 60, a^* is from -5 to 10 and b^* is from -10 to 2, wherein;

the solar radiation shielding member has a transmittance having a maximum value at a wavelength of from 400 nm to 700 nm and a minimum value at a wavelength of from 700 nm to 1,800 nm, and,

_____ where the maximum value of the transmittance is represented by P, the minimum value thereof by B and the visible-light transmittance by VLT, any solar radiation shielding member whose has solar radiation shielding performance satisfying the following mathematical expression (1) at $60\% \leq VLT \leq 80\%$ is determined to be acceptable, but any solar radiation shielding member whose solar radiation shielding performance not satisfying the mathematical expression (1) is determined

to be unacceptable; or any solar radiation shielding member whose solar radiation shielding performance satisfying the following mathematical expression (2) at $38\% \leq \text{VLT} \leq 55\%$ is determined to be acceptable, but any solar radiation shielding member whose solar radiation shielding performance not satisfying the mathematical expression (2) is determined to be unacceptable:

$$P/B + 0.2067 \times \text{VLT} \geq 17.5 \quad (1) \quad [.]$$

$$\underline{P/B + 2.4055 \times \text{VLT} \geq 133.6} \quad (2).$$

Claims 2-4 (Canceled).

Claim 5 (Currently amended): A solar radiation shielding member forming fluid dispersion which contains a solvent and solar radiation shielding fine particles dispersed in the solvent and is used for forming a solar radiation shielding member serving as a standard in the method of determining the suitability of a solar radiation shielding member according to claim 1, wherein;

said solar radiation shielding fine particles ~~comprise the fine boride particles according to claim 3~~ represented by XB_6 (wherein X is at least one selected from the group consisting of Y, La, Ce, Pr, Nd, Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm, Yb, Lu, Zr, Ba, Sr and Ca), said fine hexaboride particles having an average primary-particle diameter of 400 nm or less and a lattice constant of from 4.100 to 4.160 and having a powder color in the $L^*a^*b^*$ color system of which L^* is from 30 to 60, a^* is from -5 to 10 and b^* is from -10 to 2, and

fine boride hexaboride particles having been dispersed in the solvent have a dispersed-particle diameter of 800 nm or less.

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Claim 6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Previously presented): The solar radiation shielding member forming fluid dispersion according to claim 5, which contains at least one compound selected from ZrO_2 , TiO_2 , Si_3N_4 , SiC , SiO_2 , Al_2O_3 and Y_2O_3 .

Claim 8 (Canceled).

Claim 9 (Previously presented): The solar radiation shielding member forming fluid dispersion according to claim 7, wherein the value of (weight of said compound/weight of the fine boride particles) $\times 100$ is set within the range of from 0.1% to 250%.

Claim 10 (Previously presented): A solar radiation shielding member characterized by being formed using the solar radiation shielding member forming fluid dispersion according to claim 9.

Claims 11-12 (Canceled).

Claim 13 (Previously presented): A solar radiation shielding member characterized by being formed using the solar radiation shielding member forming fluid dispersion according to claim 5.

Claim 14 (Canceled).

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Claim 15 (Previously presented): A solar radiation shielding member characterized by being formed using the solar radiation shielding member forming fluid dispersion according to claim 7.

Claim 16 (Canceled).